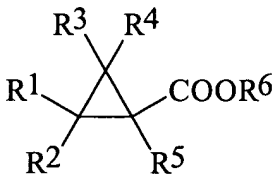
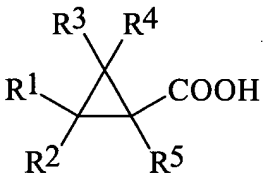
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a zirconium compound,

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, ~~a halogen atom,~~

an alkyl group which may be substituted,

an alkenyl group which may be substituted,

an alkynyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted; and

R^6 represents

an alkyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted.

2. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, ~~a halogen atom,~~

an alkyl group,

an alkenyl group,

an alkynyl group, or

an aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an alkoxy group,

an alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a haloalkoxy-carbonyl group,

an aryl group,

a halocycloalkylidene group,

an alkoxyimino group,

an alkylsulfonyl group,

an alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group; and

R^6 represents

an alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an alkenyl group, a haloalkenyl group,

an alkynyl group,

an aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted

with at lest one member selected from:

an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group,

an alkoxy group, a haloalkoxy group,

an alkoxyalkyl group,

an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group,

an aryl group, an aryoxy group,

a haloaryloxy group,

an aralkyl group,

an acyl group,

a haloacyloxyalkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an alkynyl group or an aryl or heteraryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl and an alkynyl group; or

an aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an alkynyl group, an acyl group, halogen atom, an alkoxy group, or an alkyl group.

3. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 2, wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, ~~a halogen atom,~~

an (C1-C10) alkyl group,

an (C2-C5) alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5) alkynyl group, or

an (C6-C14) aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an (C1-C4) alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4) alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a halo (C1-C4) alkoxy-carbonyl group,

an (C6-C14) aryl group,

a halo (C3-C5) cycloalkylidene group,

an (C1-C3) alkoxyimino group,

an (C1-C4) alkylsulfonyl group,

an (C1-C4) alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group; and

R^6 represents

an (C1-C10) alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an (C2-C5) alkynyl group, a halo (C2-C5) alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5) alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14) aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted with at lest one member selected from:

an (C1-C14) alkyl group, a halo (C1-C14) alkyl group,

an (C1-C4) alkoxy group, a halo (C1-C4) alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4) alkoxy (c1-C14) alkyl group,

an (C2-C5) alkenyl group, an (C2-C5) alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14) aryl group, an (C6-C14) aryoxy group,

a halo (C6-C14) aryloxy group,

an (C7-C8) aralkyl group,

an (C1-C2) acyl group,

a haloacyloxy (C1-C14) alkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an (C2-C5) alkynyl group or an (C6-C14) aryl or 5-membered heteroaryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an (C1-C14) alkyl group, an (C2-C5) alkenyl and an (C2-C5) alkynyl group; or

an (C6-C14) aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an (C2-C5) alkynyl group, a (C1-C2) acyl group, a halogen atom, a (C1-C4) alkoxy group, or a (C1-C14) alkyl group.

4-5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the zirconium compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

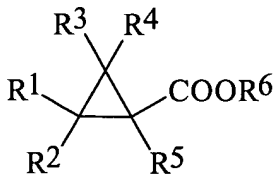
wherein M represents zirconium; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 6, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

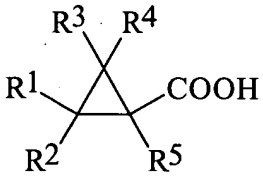
10-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a catalyst compound comprising an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements,

wherein either R^1 or R^2 represents 2,2-dichlorovinyl or 2-methyl-1-propenyl group, and the other group represents a hydrogen atom,

R^3 and R^4 represent a methyl group,

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom, and

R^6 represents

an alkyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted.

19. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 18, wherein

R^6 represents

an alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an alkenyl group, a haloalkenyl group,

an alkynyl group,

an aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted

with at least one member selected from:

an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group,

an alkoxy group, a haloalkoxy group,

an alkoxyalkyl group,

an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group,

an aryl group, an aryoxy group,

a haloaryloxy group,

an aralkyl group,

an acyl group,

a haloacyloxyalkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an alkynyl group or an aryl or heteraryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl and an alkynyl group; or

an aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an alkynyl group, an acyl group, halogen atom, an alkoxy group, or an alkyl group.

20. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein

R^6 represents

an (C1-C10)alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group, a halo(C2-C5)alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted with at least one member selected from:

an (C1-C14)alkyl group, a halo(C1-C14) alkyl group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy group, a halo(C1-C4)alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy(C1-C14)alkyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group, an (C2-C5)alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl group, an (C6-C14)aryoxy group,

a halo(C6-C14)aryloxy group,

an (C7-C8)aralkyl group,

an (C1-C2)acyl group,

a haloacyloxy(C1-C14)alkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an (C2-C5)alkynyl group or an (C6-C14)aryl or 5-membered heteroaryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an (C1-C14)alkyl group, an (C2-C5)alkenyl and an (C2-C5)alkynyl group; or

an (C6-C14)aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an (C2-C5)alkynyl group, a (C1-C2)acyl group, a halogen atom, a (C1-C4)alkoxy group, or a (C1-C14)alkyl group.

21. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 18, 19 or 20, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound having Lewis acidity.

23. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 21, wherein the catalyst compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

wherein M represents an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

24. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 23, wherein M represents zirconium.

25. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 23, wherein M represents hafnium or titanium.

26. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 24, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

27. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 25, wherein the hafnium or titanium compound is hafnium or titanium

halide, a hafnium or titanium alkoxide, or an amide compound of hafnium or titanium.

28. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 18, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is a primary alcohol.

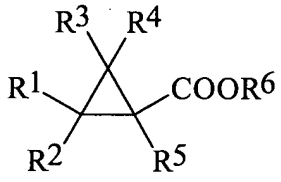
29. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein the monohydroxy compound is a compound of formula (3), wherein R^6 represents a methyl or ethyl group substituted with at least one member selected from the aryl group which may be substituted, a cyano group, and the alkynyl group.

30. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 19, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 3-phenoxybenzyl alcohol.

31. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 20, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-(2-propenyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one.

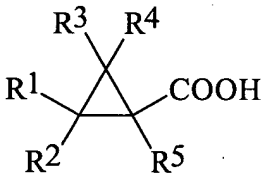
32. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 20, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-(2-propynyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one.

33. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a catalyst compound comprising an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements,

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an alkyl group which may be substituted,

an alkenyl group which may be substituted,

an alkynyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted; and

R^6 represents

3-methyl-2-(2-propenyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one-4-yl group, or 3-methyl-2-(2-propeynyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one-4-yl group.

34. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 33, wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an alkyl group,

an alkenyl group,

an alkynyl group, or

an aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an alkoxy group,

an alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a haloalkoxy-carbonyl group,

an aryl group,

a halocycloalkylidene group,

an alkoxyimino group,

an alkylsulfonyl group,

an alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group.

35. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 34, wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an (C1-C10)alkyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkynyl group, or

an (C6-C14)aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an (C1-C4)alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a halo(C1-C4)alkoxy-carbonyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl group,

a halo(C3-C5)cycloalkylidene group,

an (C1-C3)alkoxyimino group,

an (C1-C4)alkylsulfonyl group,

an (C1-C4)alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group.

36. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 34 or 35, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound.

37. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 36, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound having Lewis acidity.

38. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 36, wherein the catalyst compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

wherein M represents an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

39. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 38, wherein M represents zirconium.

40. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 38, wherein M represents hafnium or titanium.

41. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 39, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

42. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 40, wherein the hafnium or titanium compound is hafnium or titanium halide, a hafnium or titanium alkoxide, or an amide compound of hafnium or titanium.

43. (New) A process for producing a 2,2-dimethyl-3-(1-propenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylate, which process comprises:

reacting a 2,2-dimethyl-3-(1-propenyl)cyclopropane-carboxylic acid with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

$$R^6OH \qquad (3),$$

in the presence of

a zirconium compound,

wherein R^6 represents

an alkyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted.